

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Initially, the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy and assistance extended on behalf of the Applicants during the telephonic interview conducted on September 12, 2003, with the undersigned.

Applicants would also like to thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 39, 41, 46, 47, and 49 are allowed and that claims 1, 4-26, 27, and 29-38 are allowable.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objects to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) because the drawings do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner argues that the Drawings do not show the limitation of one of first or second parallelogram sub-linkages being only fixed to the payload or a portion thereof as recited in claim 1.

In response, as discussed below, the independent claims have been amended to recite that "one of the first or second parallelogram sub-linkages being directly fixed to only the payload or a portion thereof, the other of the first or second parallelogram sub-linkages being directly fixed to only the base structure or a portion thereof." Applicants respectfully submit that the features recited in independent claims 1, 27, and 36, as amended, is shown in at least Figure 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) be withdrawn.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objects to the claims because the Examiner argues that the phrase "at least second parallelogram linkages" recited in claims 27 and 36 is inconsistent with the initial recitation of "at least a second parallelogram linkage." In response, claims 27 and 36 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Those claims dependent upon claims 27 and 36 have been amended, where necessary, to be

consistent with amended base claims 27 and 36. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

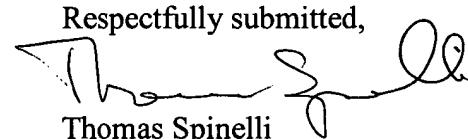
In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1, 4-27, and 29-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner argues that the phrases "one of the first or second parallelogram sub-linkages being only fixed to the payload or a portion thereof" and "the other of the first or second parallelogram sub-linkages being only fixed to the base structure or a portion thereof" as recited in claim 1 are incorrect. In response, claims 1, 27, and 36 have been amended to clarify their distinguishing features.

In the Examiner Interview, the Examiner argues that the one of the sub-parallelogram linkages (e.g., 103 in Figure 1) is not only fixed to the payload, but is also indirectly fixed to the base via the other sub-parallelogram linkage (e.g., 104). Although Applicants disagree with the Examiner's interpretation of the claims, in the interests of advancing prosecution, claims 1, 27, and 36 have been amended to clarify that one of the sub-parallelogram linkages is directly fixed to only the payload and the other sub-parallelogram linkage is directly fixed to only the base.

The amendment to claims 1, 27, and 36 are fully supported in the original disclosure, particularly at Figure 1. Thus, no new matter has been introduced into the disclosure by way of the present amendment.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 4-27, and 29-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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